

THE CHAMELEON CONSPIRACY

PART 1

MARVEL

67 LGY#
868

the AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN

SPENCER
FERREIRA
FAUCHER
HOLLOWELL

IT'S CALLED
THE HIDING
PLACE.

NOT THE MOST CREATIVE
OF NAMES, BUT THEN I SUPPOSE
THE MEN WHO BUILT IT WASTED ALL
THEIR CREATIVITY COMING UP WITH
THE ENHANCED INTERROGATION
TECHNIQUES THEY EMPLOY HERE.

IT SITS IN A
MOUNTAIN RANGE JUST
ON THE SYMKARIAN
SIDE OF THE BORDER
WITH LATVERIA.

IN THE SPIRIT OF
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
THE SYMKARIANS WERE
HAPPY TO LET THEM SET
UP SHOP THERE, ON
ONE CONDITION--

--THAT SYMKARIANS GET
TO USE THE FACILITIES
THEMSELVES ON
OCCASION.

I HATE PLACES LIKE THIS.
CELLS FULL OF TERRORISTS,
ARMS DEALERS, AND
DESPOTS GUARDED OVER
BY TORTURERS WITH THEIR
OWN AGENDAS--

--BUT I'M NOT
HERE FOR ANY
OF THEM.

NO, THE
MAN I'M
HERE FOR--

--HE COULD BE ANYONE.



DAVID.

I HELD DAVID IN MY ARMS AND FELT HIM DIE.

I CRADLED HIS HEAD IN MY HANDS, AND I CAN STILL FEEL IT--SO HEAVY.

AND NOW I'M GOING TO MEET THE MAN WHO KILLED HIM.

IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME.

BUT THE LAST TIME I WAS IN THE SAME ROOM AS HIM,* I WAS WITH MY BROTHER, WHO IS THE KINDEST, NOBLEST SOUL I HAVE EVER KNOWN.

HE WOULD NEVER BE PARTY TO A MURDER, NO MATTER HOW MUCH IT MIGHT BE EARNED.

*BACK IN ASM #836!

NEEDLESS TO SAY--

OPTICAL SCAN VERIFIED.



--I AM
NOT MY
BROTHER.

AH,
THERE YOU
ARE...

...TERESA
PARKER.

AT LONG
LAST.

HELLO,
DMITRI.

BLAM!

PETER PARKER was bitten by a radioactive spider and gained the proportional speed, strength and agility of a SPIDER, adhesive fingertips and toes and the unique precognitive awareness of danger called "SPIDER-SENSE"! After the tragic death of his Uncle Ben, Peter understood that with great power there must also come great responsibility. He became the crimefighting super hero called...

The Amazing

SPIDER-MAN

CHAMELEON CONSPIRACY Part 1

Peter Parker's life has been crazier than usual, causing him to lose track of several important people in his life. One such person is his old friend Betty Brant who returned to NYC, surprising Peter with the news that she is pregnant!

But some people Peter lost track of haven't forced themselves back into Peter's life. For instance, Silver Sable has been nursing herself back to health, thanks to her shady boyfriend, the Foreigner. When last we saw them, Foreigner was in league with Chameleon, but Spidey and his superspy sister, Teresa Parker, put an end to that. Teresa's interest in Chameleon was galvanized when he killed her fellow spy/boyfriend, David.

Peter has also lost track of much of his fellow grad student classmates. One of them, Jamie, enlisted Peter to help create the Clairvoyant, which can view possible futures. Peter could really use that invention to see just how his neglect is about to blow up in his face.

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BETTY
BRANT.

SHE WAS
MY FIRST
SWEETHEART.

THEN SHE
WAS THE DAILY
BUGLE'S BEST
REPORTER.

AND NOW...
NOW SHE'S--
SHE'S--

BETTY,
YOU'RE--
YOU'RE--

BACK IN
TOWN, YES.
DOCTORS DIDN'T
WANT ME TO FLY,
BUT HERE
I AM.

THAT'S--

BURYING
THE LEDE,
I KNOW.

WHY DIDN'T YOU
TELL ME?!

I THINK
YOU MEAN, "WHY
DIDN'T I RESPOND TO
ANY OF YOUR **SEVEN
HUNDRED** TEXTS OR
VOICE MAILS,
BETTY?"

AND SHE'S **RIGHT**,
OF COURSE.
BUT THEN MY LIFE HAS BEEN--

--MY LIFE.

WELL,
ARE YOU
GOONA?

CONGRATULATIONS!

YOU SHOULD
BE EXTREMELY
GLAD MJ IS NOT
HERE TO SEE HOW
BAD YOU ARE
AT THIS.

A FEW MINUTES AND COFFEES LATER...

OBVIOUSLY, THEY WERE NOT KEEN ON THE IDEA OF ME FLYING--BUT I TOLD THEM--THERE'S NO WAY I'M MISSING THIS.

IT'S THE BIGGEST STORY OF MY CAREER. A REAL CHANCE TO PROVE THE BUGLE CAN BE A HOME FOR INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM STILL.

OKAY, BUT--AND I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, BUT--CAN I ASK--

ABOUT THE FATHER?

THAT'S ACTUALLY WHAT I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT.

YOU HAVE TO PROMISE ME, THOUGH--THIS CAN'T GO BEYOND ME AND YOU. TOP SECRET. NOT EVEN MARY JANE.

BUT PETER, IT'S THE BEST PART.

BUT AS SOON AS SHE SAYS IT--AS SOON SHE GRABS MY HAND WITH THAT EXCITEMENT, THAT FERVOR, I KNOW IT ISN'T.

IN FACT, IT'S THE WORST POSSIBLE PART.

IT'S NED'S.

NOW, I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING-- NED PASSED YEARS AGO, BETTY'S DELUSIONAL.

AND THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M THINKING RIGHT NOW. NOT EVEN CLOSE. AFTER ALL--

--I KNOW NED LEEDS--BETTY'S DEPARTED HUSBAND-- WAS BACK FROM THE DEAD.

CLONED BY THE JACKAL ALONG WITH A WHOLE HOST OF OTHERS, MOST OF WHOM PERISHED NOT LONG AFTER.*

*BACK IN CLONE CONSPIRACY! --NL

SOME SURVIVED, THOUGH--

--AND MADE THEIR WAY OUT INTO THE WORLD.

I STARTED GETTING THESE DATA TROVES FROM AN ANONYMOUS SOURCE-- REALLY BIG DEAL STUFF, EXPOSING A GLOBAL CONSPIRACY THE LIKES OF WHICH--

ANYWAY, I'LL GET TO THAT. EVENTUALLY, I WRITE TO THE SOURCE, I TELL THEM, "WE GOTTA MEET IN PERSON, I GOTTA VERIFY YOU'RE LEGIT"--AND SO WE SET UP A TIME AND A SECURE LOCATION.

AND PETER--

--IT WAS HIM."

"WE COULDN'T STAY TOGETHER LONG. I HAD TO DIG DEEPER INTO THE STORY.

"AND HIS...ROLE IN THE WHOLE ORDEAL MEANT HE NEEDED TO REMAIN UNDERGROUND. BUT WE MADE A PLAN TO REUNITE MONTHS DOWN THE ROAD."

TODAY.

OF COURSE, THAT MEANS HE'S GOT A PRETTY MAJOR SURPRISE COMING TO HIM. TRUTH BE TOLD, I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE LOOK ON HIS--

--FACE.

PETER,
SPEAKING OF FACES--
AS SOMEONE WHO'S SPENT
THE LAST EIGHT MONTHS
VOMITING QUITE A BIT,
I THINK I RECOGNIZE
THAT LOOK.

UH--UH,
SORRY, BETTY--
I, UM, I JUST
REMEMBERED--
I GOTTA BE AT
E.S.U.--

NOW?

YEAH,
MY BAD--
I DOUBLE-
BOOKED.

O-KAY, BUT--
I DID WANT TO TALK
TO YOU ABOUT THIS
STORY. I COULD USE
YOUR HELP WITH IT--

SURE. LATER
TONIGHT. WE'LL
CATCH UP!

NOT TONIGHT,
REMEMBER?
I HAVE BIG--

--PLANS.

BUT SHE
DOESN'T.

SHE DOESN'T
KNOW THE
TRUTH ABOUT
WHAT HAPPENED
TO NED--

--BECAUSE
I DIDN'T
TELL HER.

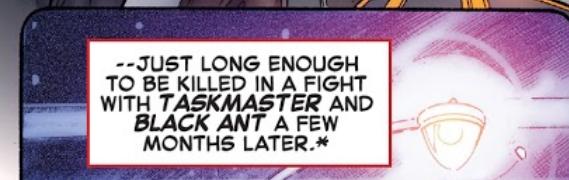


WHEN ALL THE CLONES DIED, I RATIONALIZED I DIDN'T NEED TO TELL BETTY ABOUT HIS RETURN.



I FIGURED I WAS SAVING HER THE PAIN OF LOSING HIM ALL OVER AGAIN.

BUT THEN I FOUND OUT HE'D SURVIVED--



--JUST LONG ENOUGH TO BE KILLED IN A FIGHT WITH TASKMASTER AND BLACK ANT A FEW MONTHS LATER.*

AND AGAIN, I THOUGHT KEEPING IT TO MYSELF WAS THE RIGHT CALL.

I DIDN'T ACCOUNT FOR THE POSSIBILITY HE MIGHT HAVE REACHED OUT TO HER. THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE...



HE TRIED TO WARN YOU, YOU IDIOT!

NO, YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! SHE--SHE--
BETTY...



*THIS TIME BACK IN ASM #816! --NL

NNF...
YOU SHOT
ME.
AGAIN.

WELL, YOU
KNOW WHAT
THEY SAY,
CHAMELEON--

--THIRD
TIME'S THE
CHARM.

OF COURSE, NO
ONE UNDERSTANDS
HOW DECEIVING
APPEARANCES CAN
BE BETTER THAN I,
BUT IT'S HIGH TIME
YOU REALIZE,
MY DEAR--

OH, I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE
THE **DESIRE**, OF COURSE.
AVENGING THE DEAD LOVER--
IT'S A TALE AS OLD
AS TIME.

BUT THAT'S
NOT WHAT'S BEEN
GNAWING AT THE BACK
OF YOUR MIND SINCE
WE LAST MET.
IS IT?

NO...YOU
CAME HERE
BECAUSE YOU
WANT
SOMETHING.
INFORMATION.

YOU WANT
TO KNOW
ABOUT YOUR
PARENTS.

THE FAMILY HE NEVER HAD.

"HARRY OSBORN.
IT ALL STARTED
WITH HIM."

"HE WANTED TO
TORTURE YOUR
POOR BROTHER,
YOU UNDERSTAND.
MAKE HIM FEEL A
NEW KIND OF PAIN."

"SO I HAD THEM BUILT,
WITH SOME HELP.
PERFECT RECREATIONS
OF RICHARD AND
MARY PARKER."

"I SUPPOSE HE CHOSE
ME FOR THE JOB BECAUSE
HE KNEW MY COMMITMENT
TO AUTHENTICITY.
AND I CERTAINLY MADE
THEM CONVINCING."

"DEVASTATINGLY
CONVINCING."

"OF COURSE, HARRY
NEVER QUITE GOT THE
CHANCE TO ADMIRE THE
WORK FIRSTHAND--"

--BUT I
REMAIN QUITE
PROUD OF THE
RESULT.

KRAK

I WANT YOU TO KNOW I WON'T HOLD THIS ANGER AGAINST YOU. THAT WOULD BE... UNFAIR.

I CAN'T IMAGINE HOW DIFFICULT ALL THIS MUST BE FOR YOU. HE TOLD YOU ABOUT THIS, DIDN'T HE? AND YOU FELT IT--

--THAT SINKING FEELING IN YOUR GUT. RECOGNITION.

SHUT UP.

YOU TRIED TO JUST BRUSH PAST IT AT THE TIME, BUT EVER SINCE, YOU CAN'T LET IT GO.

SOMETHING ABOUT IT ALL JUST NEVER ADDED UP. NEVER FELT TRUE. NOT EVEN TO YOU.

I SAID--

--SHUT! UP!

IT'S ALL RIGHT, TERESA. THIS IS ALL A PART OF THE PROCESS. AT LEAST WE'RE FINALLY BEING HONEST WITH ONE ANOTHER.

YOU CAME HERE BECAUSE YOU WANT TO KNOW, DON'T YOU?

YOU WANT TO KNOW IF YOU'RE LIKE THEM.

EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY.

OKAY, AT
LEAST THIS PART
WASN'T A LIE...

I REALLY DID NEED
TO SHOW MY FACE
ON CAMPUS--

--IF ONLY TO KEEP
WORKING ON THIS.
THE CLAIRVOYANT.

A DEVICE MY LAB PARTNER,
JAMIE TOLENTINO, INVENTED
THAT CAN PREDICT THE
PROBABILITY OF FUTURE EVENTS
WITH BREATHTAKING
ACCURACY--

--AT LEAST
IN THEORY.

OKAY,
BEGINNING TRIAL
SEVEN-DOT-SIX.
DIAGNOSTICS
COMPLETE. READY
WHENEVER YOU
ARE, JAMIE.

INITIATING
ENERGY
TRANSFER.



CLAIRVOYANT
AT SYSTEMS
ACTIVATED--
ALL NORM--
WAIT--

Critical
Error.

BATTERY
OVERLOAD...
TOO MUCH
INPUT--



DAMN
IT!

JAMIE, HEY--IT'S OKAY--WE'LL FIGURE IT OUT...

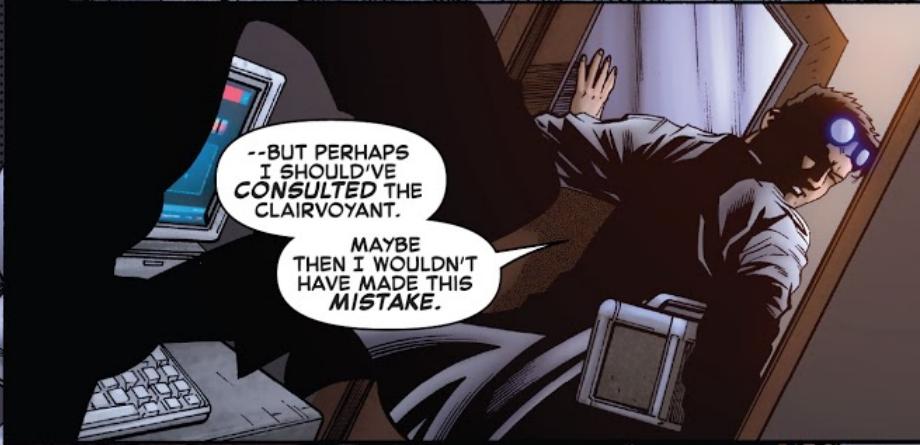
WE HAD IT FIGURED OUT, PETER. WE HAD A POWER SOURCE FOR THE CLAIRVOYANT THAT WORKED PERFECTLY WITHIN ITS PARAMETERS. WE JUST NEED MORE OF IT.

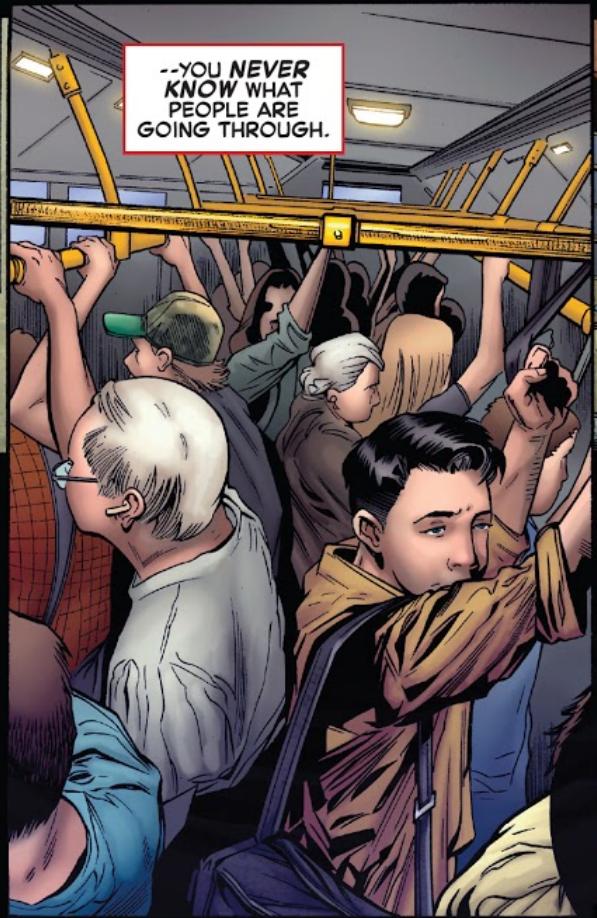
UNFORTUNATELY,
YOU WON'T EVEN
TELL ME WHERE
YOU GOT IT.

JAMIE, I'M
SORRY, BUT
I TOLD
YOU--

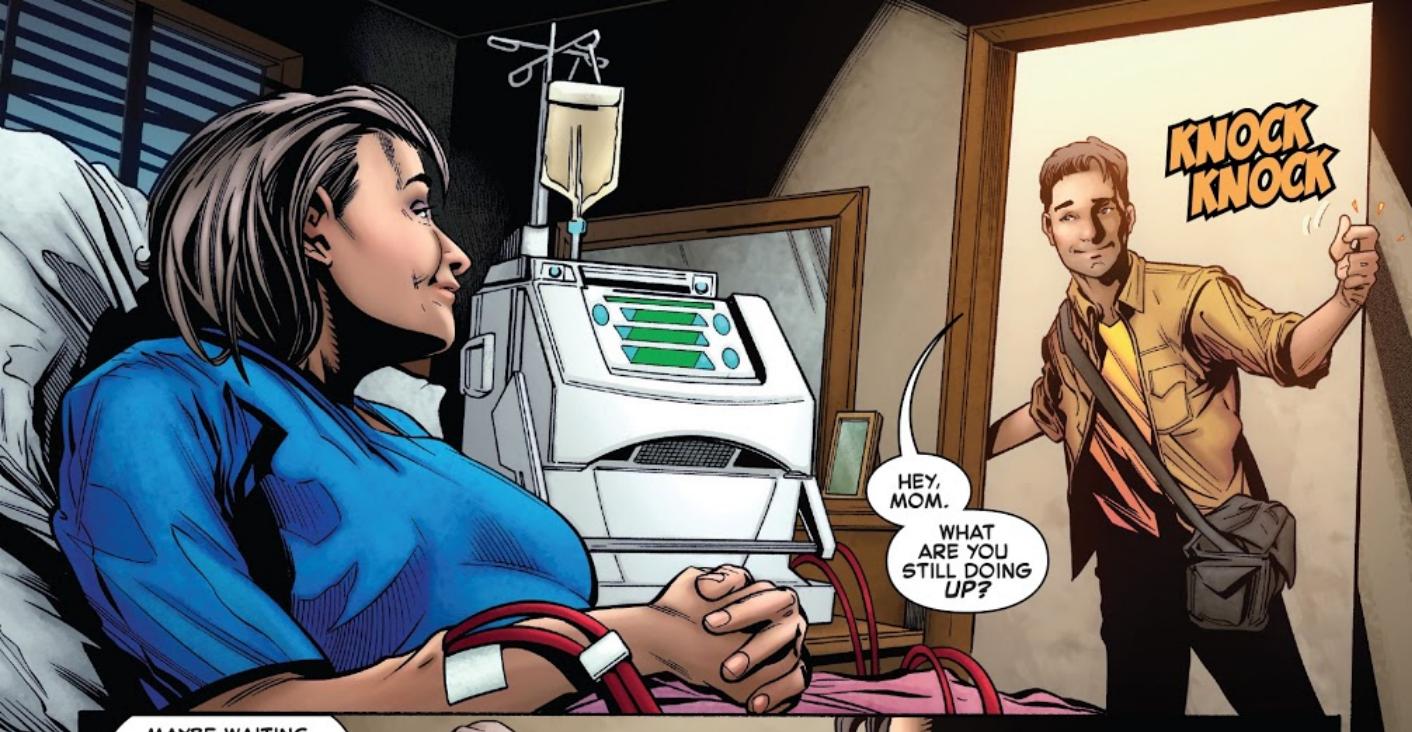
--THERE'S NO
MORE WHERE
THAT CAME
FROM.--NL

*HARD TO REPLICATE
AN EXPLOSION
LIKE THE ONE IN
ASM #835! --NL









MAYBE WAITING FOR MY SON TO GET HOME FROM ANOTHER LONG NIGHT AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY?

IF ONLY TO HEAR HOW HE'S GOING TO TAKE OVER THE WORLD SOON WITH HIS BRILLIANCE.



WISH IT WERE THAT SIMPLE.

I'M MORE WORRIED ABOUT HOW YOU'RE DOING.

THE PAIN COMES AGAIN. THE DIALYSIS TREATMENT CERTAINLY HELPS--

--BUT THEN I SEE THE BILLS.



SEEING YOU DOES HELP ME FEEL BETTER, THOUGH.

DON'T GIVE UP HOPE, MA. I CAN SEE THE FUTURE, REMEMBER?

EVERYTHING IS GOING TO TURN OUT OKAY.

NOW YOU GET SOME REST--



--I'LL
GET THIS PLACE
CLEANED UP."



H-HOW
DID YOU FIND
ME?

YOU'RE KIDDING,
RIGHT? KID, DON'T LET A
FEW DRINK COMPS FOOL
YOU. I'M A SERIOUS
SUPER VILLAIN.

BUT
BEFORE WE
BEGIN, JUST
A LITTLE
DISCLAIMER--

"THIS IS AN
ATTEMPT TO
COLLECT A DEBT.
ANY INFORMATION
OBTAINED..."

YADDA,
YADDA, YADDA--
YOU GET THE POINT,
RIGHT?

TIME
TO PAY
UP.

"OR DID YOU THINK
THE BILL WOULD NEVER
COME DUE FOR THAT
STUNT YOU PULLED
AT THE PALACE?"

"I'LL GIVE YOU CREDIT,
KID--YOU WERE DOING
PRETTY WELL."

"USING THAT
CLAIRVOYANT
OF YOURS TO BEAT
THE HOUSE--"

--BUT LOSING
JUST ENOUGH ON
PURPOSE NOT TO
GET YOURSELF
THROWN OUT.

"YEAH, YOU
MUST'VE BEEN
RIDING PRETTY
HIGH FOR A
MINUTE."



"UNTIL THE LOSING
STOPPED BEING
ON PURPOSE."



"GUESS YOUR
BABY STILL HAS
SOME KINKS TO
WORK OUT."



SO I SEE AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR
YOU AND ME TO
HELP EACH
OTHER.
OR AN
OPPORTUNITY
TO GO KILL YOUR
FAMILY. EITHER
ONE.



YOU
MONSTER!
YOU STAY AWAY
FROM THEM!
OR--



CAREFUL,
JAMIE. DON'T
MAKE ME FINISH
THAT SENTENCE
FOR YOU.

I'M
A NICE
GUY.



"BUT I DO HAVE
PARTNERS I HAVE
TO ANSWER TO."

BEGIN.





--WE'VE BEEN PRESENTED WITH THE OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME."

SO TRUST ME, IF YOU DON'T WANT FOREIGNER AND HIS PUMPKIN HEADS DOWN HERE, I'D SUGGEST GETTING COOPERATIVE REAL QUICK.

BUT-- I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU WANT. I DON'T HAVE ANY MONEY--

NO, YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING BETTER.



A WAY TO NEVER STOP MAKING MONEY.

A CASINO THAT CAN PREDICT THE FUTURE IS A HOUSE THAT ALWAYS WINS.

YOU'RE GONNA BUILD ME A CLAIRVOYANT.

I--I CAN'T.

SURE, I GET IT.

MAYBE I JUST CHECK AND SEE IF YOU'VE GOT ONE LYING AROUND IN THAT APARTMENT OF YOURS.

YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND--
I DON'T HAVE A
SUITABLE POWER
SOURCE. I'VE BEEN
TRYING--

WELL,
YOU KNOW
WHAT THEY SAY--
NECESSITY IS THE
MOTHER OF
INVENTION. AND
SPEAKING OF
MOTHERS...

SIGH! LOOK,
THERE MIGHT BE
A WAY...BUT IT'S BEEN
UNDER HEAVY GUARD
SINCE THE LETHAL
LEGION TRIED TO
STEAL IT.

"IT'S
CALLED THE
CATALYST."



WELL, THAT DIDN'T HELP AT ALL.

TURNS OUT MY LIFE AT E.S.U. IS ALMOST AS MUCH OF A MESS AS IT IS EVERYWHERE ELSE.

BUT THEN, I GUESS THAT'S WHAT I GET FOR TRYING TO RUN AWAY FROM MY PROBLEMS.

TIME TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT, PARKER. YOU NEED TO COME CLEAN. TELL BETTY THE TRUTH. ALL OF IT.

SHE DESERVES TO KNOW.

AND YOU DESERVE WHATEVER YOU GET IN RETURN.

PETER?

HEY, BETTY...

I--I'M SO SORRY FOR HOW I RAN OUT LIKE THAT EARLIER. IT'S JUST--

WELL, WE NEED TO TALK--

I AGREE. WHY DON'T YOU COME ON IN?

WE CAN ALL CATCH UP.

ALL?

THERE HE IS.

YEAH--

--TALK ABOUT SURPRISES.

GOOD TO SEE YOU, OLD PAL.

NED?!



HURRY UP.

IF YOU'VE GOT ANSWERS,
CHAMELEON--

--I'D START TALKING.

OH, TERESA...
I'M NOT THE ONE YOU
SHOULD BE ASKING
QUESTIONS.

BUT THE
PERSON BEHIND
THAT DOOR MOST
CERTAINLY
IS.

EVERYTHING
BOTH OF US HAVE
DONE, OUR ENTIRE LIVES,
WAS LEADING TO THIS
MOMENT. THIS
REUNION.

IT'S WHY I
ASKED YOUR DEARLY
DEPARTED DAVID
WHERE THE HIDING
PLACE WAS.

AND WHY
YOU HAD ME
PLACED HERE
ONCE I WAS
CAPTURED.

YOU WANT
ANSWERS ABOUT
PARENTS, TERESA.
WHO BETTER TO
GIVE THEM...





...THAN THE
MAN WHO KILLED
THEM. MEET KARL
FIERS--

--THE
FINISHER.

TO BE
CONTINUED!

NEXT:



Issue #68

Let us know how we're doing! Drop us a line at [SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM!](mailto:SPIDEYOFFICE@MARVEL.COM)
Be sure to mark it "Okay to print"!



